

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An optical film comprises a transparent support and a
5 polarizing layer. The polarizing layer selectively trans-
mits polarized light, and selectively reflects or scatters
other polarized light. The polarizing layer contains a
compound represented by the formula (I) of $\text{Ar}^1\text{-C}\equiv\text{C-Ar}^3\text{-C}\equiv\text{C-}$
10 Ar^2 . In the formula (I), each of Ar^1 and Ar^2 independently
is a monovalent aromatic group, and Ar^3 is a divalent aro-
matic group.